



# Maricopa County CASA<sup>Too</sup>

Court Appointed Special Advocate Program Newsletter

[www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov](http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov)

October 2002

## Celebrate adoption; Conferences, changes and picnics

### Celebrate Adoption

The third annual Celebrate Adoption Event is coming up on November 16, 2002 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. down at the Central Court Building at 201 W. Jefferson. Adoption hearings are taking place from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. There will also be educational sessions with topics including types of adoptions, legal issues in adoption and talking to your children about adoption, to name just a few.

Come join us and celebrate building new families through adoption!



### CASA Annual Training

The CASA Annual Day of Training is coming up this month, October 19 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Hopefully, you have received your invitation by now. This is a great opportunity to catch up on your training hours for 2002.

We are offering pertinent topics regarding Mental Health Issues involving our CASA children.

The presenters will be answering questions such as: How does abuse/neglect affect brain and child development? What kinds of therapies are available to treat infant and toddlers? How does one interpret a psychological evaluation?

Please RSVP so we can know how much food we will need. Look forward to seeing you there.

### Court Report Changes

The State CASA Program, with the aid of a committee of coordinators, has implemented a revised Court Report format for use for all court reports from this point forward.

The format has not changed drastically, but the Interviewed Parties and

Resources Reviewed sections have been moved to the back of the report, as a bibliography would be. This moves the more pertinent and timely information up front where the judges are more likely to focus, and when they need additional information on resources or party names, they can move to the back of the report. Please review the new format included with this newsletter and review the narrative suggestions in each section. It includes many of the things you already address in your reports, and the narratives in each section can be arranged in whatever manner you are comfortable.

For future reports, you can change the format on your disk and send in the revised format; use the old format, we will revise and send the new format back to you, or download the format from the CASA State website at [www.supreme.state.az.us/casa](http://www.supreme.state.az.us/casa). Another option would be to bring your disk to the October 19<sup>th</sup> Annual CASA

Training Day, and we will reformat it for you there. Please call the office with any questions.

### CASA FYI

In court, the judge will usually start a hearing by going around the room for the parties to introduce themselves. It is important that the court clerk knows that you are present so that your name will be included on the minute entry. IF the introductions stop before they reach you, you may raise your hand and ask the judge to note your presence. Another way to handle it is to approach the court clerk after the hearing and ask that your name be added to the list of attendees.

### Theta Picnic

Last month's newsletter included an article on the Kappa Alpha Thetas as part of our Aid to CASA series. As mentioned in the article, the Thetas provide a picnic with carnival games with prizes and treats for the CASA children every year.

Our upcoming picnic is being held on November 2 from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Margaret T. Hance Park.

Please plan on bringing your CASA children to this event. It has been loads of fun in the past and we expect

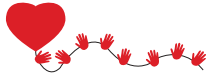
to have a terrific time again. As always, please RSVP-we want to have enough food for all.

The Thetas also donated backpacks this month, which are filled with school supplies for our school-aged youngsters. If you would like to receive one for your CASA child, please contact your CASA Coordinator.

### NOTE:

*Call and confirm the date and time of FCRB hearings the day before. There can be last minute changes that you may want to be aware of.*

*The FCRB's main office number is 602.542.9400.*



# Upcoming Events

**October 14 — Columbus Day**  
CASA Office closed

**October 19, 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.**  
**CASA Annual Training**  
Get 6 hours toward your required 12 hours of training in one day!

**October 24, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.**  
**Case Selection Meeting**  
Juvenile Court Complex – Durango  
Juvenile Probation Administration  
Building Room 223.

**October 29, 10 a.m.**  
**Press Conference**  
Governor Jane Hull will issue proclamation of CASA Week from Oct. 28-Nov. 1  
1501 West Jefferson  
Arizona Supreme Court Building

**November 2, 12 p.m.- 4 p.m.**  
**CASA/Theta Kids Picnic**  
Margaret T. Hance Park,  
(Central Phoenix, next to public library)

**November 5**  
**Election Day**

**November 7-8**  
**Statewide Sexual Assault Conference**  
Black Canyon Conference Center  
Old YWCA Leadership Development Center, Phoenix, Arizona  
For info call: 928.445.5038

**November 11 — Veteran's day**  
CASA Office closed

**November 16, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.**  
**Celebrate Adoption Day**  
Central Court Complex  
201 West Jefferson, Downtown Phoenix  
**Volunteers needed**

**November 28 — Thanksgiving Day**  
CASA Office closed

**Dec. 7, 2002**  
Maricopa CASA Holiday Gathering



## Peer Group Meetings

**Scottsdale** – 1:30 p.m., last Wednesday of every month at the home of MaryLou Davis.

**East Valley** – 6:30 p.m.- 8 p.m., third Thursday of every month, Hosted by Greg Broberg.

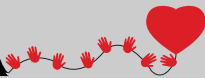
**Central Phoenix** – 6:30 p.m., third Wednesday of every other month, at the homes of alternating hosts Marcia Rysdon and Doreen Sweiss.

**Phoenix** – 4 p.m., second Sunday of every month at the home of Peiggi Clements

**West Valley** – 6:30 p.m., fourth Thursday of every month, at the home of Donna Spence.

**Please call the main CASA office – 602.506.4083 – for peer group host phone numbers.**

# CASA



## Contacts and Information

### Locations

### Program Staff

#### Durango

3125 West Durango, Suite 130  
Phoenix, AZ 85009  
FAX - 602.506.5512

Leslie Blakley	602.506.4082
Otis R. Evans	602.506.4425
Rita Laird	602.506.4083
Laurie Laughlin	602.506.3934
Bonnie Lodato	602.506.6491
La Donna Moss	602.506.3930
Esperanza Tavena	602.506.4415

#### Southeast

1810 South Lewis Street  
Mesa, AZ 85210  
FAX - 602.506.6570

Rita Flores	602.506.3935
Bonnie Marcus	602.506.3379